

2000 FRUIT HIGHLIGHTS

Hawaii fruit growers harvested 810.9 million pounds of fruit for fresh and processed utilization in 2000, up 3 percent from 1999. Fruit acreage totaled 27,822 acres, 4 percent less than the previous year. Compared with 1999, pineapple, papaya, banana, guava and avocado output were all higher. Lower outputs were experienced by the other fruits. Pineapple continued to account for the majority of 2000's total fruit utilization with 87 percent. The farm value of all fruits totaled \$132.9 million in 2000, an increase of 2 percent from 1999, the highest on record, and mainly due to an increase in the banana value. Farm values were also up for papaya, pineapple, guava, avocado, and other fruits. Honolulu County ranked first for fruit value, with pineapple the top contributor.

● BANANA

Banana growers harvested a record 29.0 million pounds in 2000, up 18 percent from the previous year and increasing for the fourth consecutive year. Maturing Cavendish acreage on Hawaii and Honolulu Counties was the main reason for heavier yields and higher utilization. Hawaii Apple bananas also experienced increases in acreage and output. Total acreage statewide as of February 2001 was a record high 1,710 acres, 50 acres less than February last year. Harvested acreage totaled 1,550 in 2000, up 130 acres from a year earlier. Growers planted 160 additional acres in 2000. The farm price for all varieties of local bananas averaged 36.0 cents per pound in 2000, up 1.0 cent from the previous year. The farm value reached a record \$10.4 million with higher output and price.

● PAPAYA

Fresh papaya utilization totaled 50.3 million pounds in 2000, 28 percent higher than last year, accounting for 92 percent of the total papaya utilization. About 52 percent of the fresh sales went to out-of-state destinations. Very dry conditions in non-irrigated orchards during June and July 1999 and again in February and March 2000 reduced flowering. The State's harvested papaya acreage is estimated at 1,650 acres for 2000, 15 percent lower than 1999. From the August 2000 inventory, Kapoho variety made up 40 percent of the State's total acreage. Another 40 percent was planted in Rainbow and Sunup varieties which are resistant to papaya ringspot virus. Sunrise made up 15 percent. In recent years, papaya plantings have increased in areas outside the Island of Hawaii. The result has been an increase in the amount of fresh fruit produced from Kauai and Oahu. Farm prices for fresh sales averaged 31.6 cents per pound in 2000, down 8.6 cents from a year ago.

● PINEAPPLE

Fruit harvested for fresh sales totaled 244 million pounds in 2000, unchanged from the 1999 total. Fresh sales accounted for 34 percent of the total pineapple production. Fresh pineapples averaged \$585 per ton compared to \$594 from the previous year's price. Processed pineapple utilization totaled 464 million pounds in 2000, up 1 percent from 1999. Pineapples for processing averaged \$130 per ton compared to \$126 for the previous year.

